

Remarks

Claims 1-6, 8, and 9 are pending in the subject application. By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claim 1 and added claims 39-42. Support for the amendment and new claims can be found throughout the subject specification and in the claims as originally filed. Entry and consideration of the amendment and new claims presented herein is respectfully requested. Accordingly, claims 1-6, 8, 9, and 39-42 are currently before the Examiner. Favorable consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Applicants note that this Amendment is being submitted with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Applicants have requested a suspension of action in the subject application for three months in order to allow Applicants sufficient time to prepare and submit arguments and evidence to address the rejection under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, in the Office Action dated February 25, 2004. However, Applicants believe that the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-0065.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



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